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Neglected Arabia



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BRITISH SOLDIERS FROM INDIA GUARDING THE LANSING MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN BUSRAH, NOTE THE BARRICADE OF SANDBAGS ON THE ROOF

NEGLECTED ARABIA

**TWENTY-
FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY
REPORT
NUMBER**

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NOTE.

In view of the fact that war conditions have prevented much of the material intended for this issue from arriving at the usual time, it has seemed wise to publish the article prepared by Dr. Paul W. Harrison for the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions.

This has especial interest as it is a review of Twenty-five years' work of The Arabian Mission.

The Arabian Mission

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Neglected Arabia

Missionary News and Letters

Published Quarterly by

THE ARABIAN MISSION

Bahrein Since the War

REV. JAMES E. MOERDYK.

When the reports of war in Europe began to arrive in Bahrein the people became first inquisitive and then interested. Men wanted to know what it was about and who were the fighting parties. Newspapers suddenly were in demand. Our Bible shop's reading room had many new visitors who carefully studied all the papers and magazines and men began to read with intelligence. Very many came to buy geographies and atlases of all kinds until the stock was exhausted. People who could not read would gather round men who had gathered their information from different sources and were proud to give it out, very frequently adding remarks and comments of their own. A few days before Turkey entered the war, Great Britain's first transports carrying troops from India, and a few gunboats entered the harbor. This created a sensation and more talk followed. These troops never landed in Bahrein, but after a few days proceeded to Fao and Busrah in Turkish Arabia, so the excitement aroused by their appearance soon subsided. About the same time a German merchant resident in Bahrein was arrested by the British and sent to India on the charge of scattering false reports among the Arabs, and trying in different ways and by means of cash payments, to excite them to oppose the British who were in control. This arrest was the talk of the bazaar for some time, and some of the people were not afraid to express their ideas in criticism of the powers that obtain in Bahrein. The place has a large number of Arabs who are pro-German in their sympathies and especially so since Turkey has joined in the war; but at no time have there been more than a few who would welcome a change in the government of the islands under British protection.

Bahrein is not so much disturbed by the fact of war in Europe, and few indeed are the men who have any convictions as to the moral principles involved or who possess sincere sympathy for the women and children and men who suffer or are murdered in such large numbers. Their anxiety and their worries are caused by the loss of business and the slump in the money market. Bahrein's bazaar is not very large, although usually very busy. It excels as a dis-

tributing center for the smaller ports and places along the coast on the mainland. When times are normal more cargo is brought to Bahrein than to any other place in the Persian Gulf. Since the war this wholesale business has fallen away by fifty per cent or more. The ruling Sheikh gets most of his income from customs levied on imports of all sorts. One month, soon after the war began, hardly produced sufficient income from this source to pay his clerks and attendants and other expenses in the customs department. Other business in the town decreased rapidly. The cost of building material procured and sold locally decreased by more than fifty per cent. Wages of day laborers decreased from thirty-three cents to twenty cents per day.

Bahrein's chief source of income and wealth is the pearl trade. When war was declared the men were out diving and the merchants were just beginning to sell pearls. Without any warning the market broke, nor is there any hope for its revival until sometime after the war ceases. The result is that many have pearls for which they have spent their cash and no one will buy them at anything like a fair price. Those who have already made their fortunes at this business in the past will not suffer but other and especially the pearl-divers will have a hard time to make ends meet. Back wages have not yet been paid, and divers cannot expect much wages if they go diving during this season.

Conditions of this sort do not make for peace and harmony. Already cases of threatened disturbances have been reported because, for example, a man was set upon by a rich man for stealing a bag of rice wherewith to feed his hungry family. One cannot expect the rich Arab to be helpful or sincerely compassionate. Many of the Persians and Kurds who were foreign to the place have left for other ports. The poorer Arabs who remain have for so long lived a life of idleness during part of each year that they do not take kindly to some other means of livelihood even when this is possible.

All of these circumstances effect the missionary and his work. No one would venture a very definite statement as to what will be the result or what will ultimately be the Arab's attitude, but a few sentences about existing occurrences will suffice. The topic first and last suggested and reproduced by the Arab is war, and every Arab is almost absolutely certain that the white foreigner knows exactly all that has happened and what will take place in the future during this war. And perhaps the last topic the missionary wishes to discuss is that of war. It is exceedingly difficult to answer the question suggested to his own mind as the war continues, and more difficult to turn a conversation of this sort into channels that will be helpful to his Arab auditors. As he passes through the bazaar or on his trips through the villages seeking an opportunity to present his message men ignore their words and persist in asking when the great nations will stop fighting. Colporteurs complain that people will not purchase Scripture even for a very small price, because they need their pennies

to buy food. But portions of Scripture and tracts of different kinds given away are also refused because, as they say, "we have not time to bother with these books." Bedouin Arabs from the mainland except for a few stragglers, have ceased coming to the hospital. Their ruling Sheikh has forbidden any to leave the country because he desires to have them on hand to fight for him when possible troubles arise. The doctor has for weeks waited patiently for permission to go inland to visit these Arabs, but at last was told it was not possible at this time. All the other places along the coast have been closed for the same reason. So the missionary is confined to the station to minister to the needy there and tell them of the better ways which will bring lasting peace and prosperity.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Work in Arabia

ARTHUR K. BENNETT, M.D.

During the first three months of the European war, Busrah was comparatively free from any direct influence injuring the commerce and prosperity of the town. If Turkey had declined to be led into the strife, we should have enjoyed a high degree of prosperity; for the grain crops in the Mesopotamia Valley had been excellent and the date crop a good one. However, it soon became evident that German sympathies were predominating, and German influence spread so that day after day the Turks became more unreasonable and bitter in their attacks on the British. As a protest against this, British merchant ships were prohibited by the Indian Government from coming up the Busrah River, and trade came to a standstill. This seemed only to embitter the Turks the more, and on October 1st, when the capitulations with all foreign powers were nullified by Imperial statute, orders came to close the British Postoffice and use force if necessary to do it. After this followed a month of more active German propoganda and only highly colored telegrams of German victories reached our ears. We knew from British sources that these were untrue, but the lies were all swallowed by the Turks and Arabs, who were made to believe that the German armies were constantly victorious. This was by no means all, for as soon as war had been declared by Turkey the Mullahs began to preach a Holy War.

During the summer our hospital had been quite as active as usual in spite of the fact that the Government was mobilizing all available recruits. We continued to have operative cases from far up country, but as soon as war was declared they stopped coming as quickly as though a tap had been turned.

The day after the declaration of war Mr. Van Ess and I visited the Governor and offered the use of the schools and the hospitals for the accommodation of any Turkish wounded they might have. He very gratefully accepted our offer, and as it was only a few



MEN PATIENTS WAITING FOR TREATMENT AT THE LANSING MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

days after that the fighting began, we had ample opportunity to make good our offer. The Red Crescent Society of Busrah used our hospital as a base, and all the operative cases were sent to us. This meant that in a short time we had over 100 severely wounded Turks in our hospital, which ordinarily was supposed to accommodate 45. Every two or three days they would transfer some of the more lightly wounded and send us as many more seriously injured patients. Besides this we dressed many who came daily as out-patients. Thus we were kept so busy that we hardly realized what critical moments were passing. For several days after war was declared and fighting really commenced, processions of shouting Arabs headed by Mullahs were parading the streets preaching a Holy War and death to all infidels. Most of these men were armed and they constantly shot their guns into the air to make their chants and war cries more impressive. The Christian community was in terror, and it really seemed to need only a spark to light Moslem fanaticism and kindle it to a fury. Our hospital work for the wounded ingratiated us in the eyes of the Turk, and men of authority were constantly visiting us and commending our work.

It was humorous as well as pathetic to see the number of applicants from the native Christian population who wished to serve in the hospital as nurses and orderlies, knowing as they did that the safest place in case of a massacre, would be with us. For a time we were very glad to use this volunteer service and we used a number of them to work at night and to assist with the dressings during the day.

The fighting was continuous along the river, and we soon heard that the Turks were being driven back on Busrah. One evening the order came from the Turkish commander that we were to get all those ready who were fit to go, and that they were to be sent up to Baghdad on the river steamers. We had been receiving wounded all day and had our biggest number, 110, in the wards and on mats in the halls. We managed to get ready some thirty or more of those whose arms and fingers were crippled but who could walk with some degree of comfort. Six Turkish officers went, although two of them had bullets through the abdomen. They were quite plucky fellows, although I suspected that some of them would have as soon stayed and taken their chances with the rest of the wounded.

The following morning we found that the Turks had evacuated in the night. Arab marauders poured in next day and looted the Custom House and the Turkish Steamer warehouses, but the evening of the second day the coming of the British stopped further depredations. It is said that numbers of Arabs were killed fighting one another over the spoils, but we were never able to know just how many. Several men were brought into the hospital with flesh bullet wounds, and we supposed that they were from among the looters. We asked no questions, however, but treated all as best we could. It was a relief to hear the cannon from the gunboat, and then in the morning to see the British "Tommy" patrolling the streets.

From that time on, our hospital became a regular Red Cross Hospital and we kept it comfortably full most of the time. We found that by carefully arranging the beds in the halls and private rooms we could accommodate seventy-five.

Thus from early in November until now (early in February) we have been busy with Turkish and Arab wounded. Many of our patients were rapidly recovering and these were sent down to India on Red Cross ships. We had many more come, however, as the British advanced up the river and took the junction of the Euphrates and Tigris.

At first it was suggested that we appeal to the American Red Cross for funds, but because of the many demands that we knew were being made in America we concluded not to do so. The Government has allowed us sufficient for the food and dressings of each patient, and we are hoping that we can make up any deficit from the regular income of the hospital.

We can only speculate as to the amount of Red Cross work there will be to do here this year, but we thank God for the chance we have had to meet so many Arabs and Turks and have them feel the influence of the Gospel. We were unable to preach much, but we had recently placed on all the walls suitable texts from the Old and New Testament so that all of them knew something of the Gospel before they left, and we can pray that the Christian kindness shown them may never be forgotten.

THE ARABIAN MISSION.

FOUNDED, 1889. INCORPORATED, 1894.

ADOPTED BY R. C. A., 1894.

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In Cairo, Egypt.—Rev. Dr. and Mrs. S. M. Zwemer.

In America.—Mrs. F. J. Barny, Rev. G. J. Pennings, Mrs. E. E. Calverley.

REPORT OF THE ARABIAN MISSION FOR 1914.

The Arabian Mission has been at work for twenty-five years. Its object is to establish the Church of Christ throughout the whole Arabian peninsula. This is perhaps a suitable year to take note of our past progress, and comparing our present position with what God desires for Arabia, to gain a fresh realization of what lies before us.

We labor continually at three different tasks: the Occupation of Territory, the Overcoming of Obstacles, and the Winning of Men's Hearts. Our field also is naturally divided into three parts: Mesopotamia, which is tributary to Busrah; Maskat, with its hinterland of Oman; and the whole of Inland Arabia, called Nejd, which we approach from Kuweit and Bahrein.

THE OCCUPATION OF TERRITORY.

Busrah and Mesopotamia, we may speak of as "occupied," that is, the struggle for a foothold is finished. We have per-

manent work in Busrah, Amara and Nasaryieh, and it is doubtful whether further locations are needed. This field has also been occupied in a very real sense, during the past year, by civilization. The days of childish Turkish Medievalism are over. Under the British flag, Busrah and Mesopotamia face a new era and new opportunities, the extent of which we shall only realize as God shall unfold them. The object of our prayers for Busrah need no longer be the opening of territory, but the opening of men's hearts; no longer a mere foothold for missionaries, but the establishment of the Arab Church.

Inland Oman, formerly open and calling for workers, has been closed for the past three years. It is re-opening. The tribal warfare is quieting down. Mr. Barny writes that it is possible for Arabs to travel back and forth practically everywhere. The export of dates has been resumed. Roads are not considered safe, but Dr. Worrall reports a very successful trip to Seeb, and was only prevented by affairs in Mutrah from going on to Birkah. Inland Oman is unoccupied. We have not so much as a Colporteur outside of the two stations on the coast. We must still pray for an opportunity to work in Oman, and we will do well to pray also, for workers to enter and occupy, as the doors swing open.

And what shall we say of Nejd, the goal of our heart's desire? The base of approach has been strengthened, both in Bahrein and Kuwait. Apparently only the war prevented Dr. Mylrea's being invited in, for a visit, this past year. He had a most cordial interview with Bin Saoud, the great Arab chief, who is absolute Czar of Central Arabia. It is evident that our Medicine is greatly desired and that our religion is greatly feared.

Bahrein invaded the Mainland at Kateef. It was a medical trip, and Mrs. Van Peurse's work for the women was probably the most warmly appreciated feature of it. There has been much demand for a similar visit to Hassa, and prospects of gaining official permission seem to be good.

Nejd, we consider the very citadel of Islam. Here, indeed, we must pray for the opening of doors, for laborers to enter, and for the grace of God to soften men's hearts.

THE OVERCOMING OF OBSTACLES.

The major part of our time and effort, has been, and is still spent, in the overcoming of prejudice and ignorance, so that a sympathetic contact with the souls of those around us may be possible. Undoubtedly the greatest human force working toward this end has been the quiet, unobtrusive power of Christian lives, lived in the midst of a contemptuous and sometimes hostile Moslem society. Only second to this, however, has been the influence of the Hospitals and Schools of the Mission. It has been their aim to soften prejudice, and enlighten ignorance, and create an atmosphere of mutual understanding and sympathy, which shall be favorable to the presentation and acceptance of the Gospel.

The Mission has three well equipped hospitals in Busrah, Bahrein, and Kuwait, a complete medical work in rented quarters in Mutrah, and a Women's Dispensary in Maskat. A large number are reached in this way. During the past year over 25,000 were treated. Probably all of these have had at least some of their prejudice melted away, and even though the Gospel may have been heard, but once, in a dispensary service, and then very imperfectly understood, many of their former notions about the religion of Jesus Christ they now know to be false.

Our banner Hospital is the Lansing Memorial in Busrah, from which institution the reputation of Dr. and Mrs. Bennett extends far beyond the boundaries of our entire Mission. The acquisition of Miss Holzhauser as superintendent has made possible a great increase in the quantity, and possibly a still greater increase in the quality of the work done. In-patients to the number of 582 were cared for in the course of the year, and of these, 340 underwent major surgical operations. In the out-patient departments, 9,129 patients were treated and there was a total of 20,013 treatments given. Eighty to ninety per cent of these were free patients. Dr. Bennett writes: "The year that has just closed has been full of work, and of unprecedented opportunities. Never has the hospital been more appreciated by the Arabs, nor has there ever been a year when we have had less fanaticism and bigotry in those who have sought our advice for treatment or operation. The hospital has been open for the full

twelve months, and the number of patients has exceeded by far that of any other year in our history.

"Prayers are held clinic mornings as heretofore, a fifteen-minute service of Bible reading, preaching and prayer. It was my custom to take the service once a week. Salome, our Hospital Evangelist, supplied when Dr. Cantine was unable to be present. We count several men this year who were powerfully influenced by the Gospel. Salome's Bible sales among the patients have not been the least of his labors."

Mrs. Bennett writes: "In spite of the war, the women continued to crowd the morning clinics. My highest daily number (140) was reached early in September. The scarcity of drugs became a serious problem, so that we had to discriminate in the administration of medicines, giving only to those who were suffering from serious ailments."

"For the year before us," writes Miss Holzhauser, "I pray that we may be spared to our work, and kept in harmony with Him whose we are, and whom we try to serve, and in our endeavors to serve and help the sick, poor and ignorant that we may learn to understand and love them, and be comforted anew, that 'not one sparrow falleth.' If this is true, 'How much more doth the Father love all His children, even these least.'"

The Mason Memorial Hospital in Bahrein reports a good year. There were 6,328 out-patients and 322 in-patients treated, 152 of the latter had major operations performed. There was an increased effort to do careful evangelistic work with the in-patients, and the results, while not great, were encouraging. Mrs. Van Peurse, who is superintendent of the hospital, and who has as well the Women's Medical Work in charge, writes:

"My work during the past year consisted in holding the Morning Dispensary for women, general nursing and supervision of the patients, assisting at operations, outcalls with the physician, or alone, and housekeeping for the hospital.

"With the patients we did personal work. We tried to speak to each one individually each day about spiritual things. This was the most encouraging and pleasant feature of the evangelistic work. During the whole year we have not met with one single case who refused to listen."

In Kuwait 4,521 patients were seen. There were 11,510 treatments given. The hospital and the physician's residence were completed, and special gifts have provided much of the necessary equipment. It has been a year of building and moving, but as Mrs. Calverley writes: "It has been a year of slow, but continual progress, and in no respect has there been any cause for discouragement." The friendliness of the people and of the Sheikh has increased, and the Evangelistic work in the hospital has been steadily pushed. Next year will probably see Kuwait treating nearly or quite as many patients as any hospital we have.

Mutrah has been cut off from the interior, for the entire year, but the amount of work accomplished has been surprisingly large. Over 4,500 patients have been treated. The total number of treatments was over ten thousand. Mrs. Worrall writes of vaccinating 90 patients in one day. The effort to secure land for a hospital has not yet been successful, in spite of many promises. As soon as Inland Oman opens once more, the opportunity for evangelistic medical work in this field will perhaps be the finest of any in our Mission.

The Maskat Women's Dispensary is our youngest medical work. Dr. Hosmon has had both Hindus and Arabs to treat, which is not remarkable considering the character of the city. Many of the usual difficulties of a new work were encountered. She writes: "I have enjoyed giving the Gospel talks to the women, but it has not been as easy as it should be, because the women do not come on time. The Dispensary has been open three months and in that time there have been 202 patients."

THE EDUCATIONAL WORK.

We have educational work in Busrah and Bahrein. There have been efforts to establish schools in our other stations, but they have had only indifferent success. There is no lack of ignorance everywhere, but the thirst for knowledge seems undeveloped. In Busrah, however, under the new Turkish regime there has been a genuine demand for education and the development of "The School of High Hope" during the past three years has made it one of the brightest stars of our entire Mission

effort. For these three years, Mr. Van Ess has guided it skilfully through the difficulties and obstacles of Turkish officialism. He writes, doubtless with a long breath of relief:

"This is our last year under the Crescent. It is important, for it indicates what God can do in spite of the obstacles before his workers. The year was begun in a new and capacious building in a central and conspicuous location. Some of the outstanding features were.

"1. The systematic and thorough study of the Gospel by the pupils. The life of Christ was thoroughly studied and the final examination indicated that not only the text and history had been understood, but that deductions had been made which promise to take their place in accomplishing the purpose for which the school was established.

"2. The exceptional promise evinced by the Moslem boy. With the beginning of the year the great majority of the pupils returned, and with them new boys of like age and station. One could not but notice that through the former pupils ran a strain of higher purpose, cleaner thinking, and better manhood, and it was gratifying to notice how soon the new pupils were imbued with this spirit.

"Our first public exhibition was held in December at which the Governor and notables as well as parents were present. The boys acquitted themselves nobly and the local newspaper made the occasion a subject for a scathing article on the decadence of Turkish ideals and methods.

"The total in attendance during the year was 146. The total in attendance at the end of the year 94."

Mrs. Van Ess writes of the Girls School: "The total of girls enrolled was 61 and the average daily attendance between thirty and forty. Compulsory Bible study kept away some pupils, and several of the most promising students were taken away because their masculine relatives considered it a disgrace for such big girls to go to school." As she writes, "A new day is dawning for this region with the coming of British rule, and it will mean ultimately, without doubt, far greater opportunities for our school to build and grow on the foundations already laid, than we should ever have had under Turkey."

The Bahrein Boys' School, in the face of almost universal indifference and not a little acute opposition, was pushed up to a total attendance of 44. Of these 24 were in the Day School, and 20 in the Night School. Mr. Van Peurseem writes: "The evening pupils might have attended more regularly, but as it was, I came into contact with sixty different men during one month in the Night School. None of the pupils left us because they felt disappointed, but many of the day pupils left because their parents moved away. In a very short time, we lost ten of our best pupils." The influence of the school was felt throughout the entire community, and many homes were opened to us by this means. As an indirect testimony to the power of the work done in our school, a Persian school has been opened in Bahrein, and an Arabic-Persian printing press set up.

THE WINNING OF MEN'S HEARTS.

Our aim is to win men to Jesus Christ. All our activities find their justification in this one aim, and their highest usefulness in the support they contribute, to the direct efforts toward this end. It is a simple work here in Arabia, as it is the world over. One soul through contact with another leads to its acceptance of Life in Christ, God's greatest gift to men.

There are, in the first place, the regular preaching services, every Sunday, in each one of our stations. They are in Arabic, and the attendance by Moslems is increasing. This past year the Busrah and Bahrein chapels have both found their seating capacity, at times, insufficient. It is doubtless true that with many the motives have not been unmixed, but even so, this is something for which we "Thank God and take courage."

Supplementing these regular preaching services, is a steady visitation of the Moslems in their houses, carried on by both men and women missionaries. Visits are both made and received, and opportunities sought, not only to cultivate friendship, but to present Christ. The extent and value of this work cannot be easily overestimated. Women are perhaps even more accessible than men, and perhaps in nothing that we do, is the power of the work more manifest, than in the melting away of prej-

udice, and increasing readiness to listen to the Gospel, which results from this ministry of home visitation. Mrs. Mylrea writes from Kuwait, the newest and most bigoted of our stations: "Since that day I have not lacked for visitors. Groups of women came before I was dressed in the morning and before I had finished my nap in the afternoon. The work has been delightful because there has been real friendship. I have invitations to stop in and lunch, any day I can. I availed myself of this, during the weeks that Dr. Mylrea was busy building, and did not come home to tiffin. I took my sewing and my Gospel with me, and although I did not always have the opportunity to read, there was always the opportunity to witness to the truth." Miss Lutton writes similarly of the work in Maskat: "I think that I may now say that I am known and welcomed from one end of Maskat to the other, and including all the nearest villages, from Sudab to Reeyam. The constant house to house visitation has gained this popularity, and many faces which I fail to remember remind me of the time I either visited them, or met them in some house of mourning."

The sale of Scriptures has been a prominent feature of our work ever since the commencement of the Mission. Bibles and portions are kept on exhibit in the hospital waiting rooms. They are read by waiting patients; sometimes they are stolen, but as Dr. Mylrea writes from Kuwait: "A few verses of the Gospel, read quietly, not improbably stay longer in the memory than a quarter of an hour's talk. It is the Word of God as alongside the word of man."

To push the sale of the Scriptures more vigorously than the missionaries themselves could possibly do, the Mission employs a force of twelve colporteurs, who have this as their particular function. They meet with much opposition, not to say genuine persecution. They suffer everything short of physical injury, and occasionally not short of it. However, the Word of God is being circulated, and to an extent that indicates the "Good hand of our God upon us." From Busrah Station the report is of 2,106 Scriptures and portions sold this past year. Amara adds 801 to this number. Bahrain sold 1,724 copies, Kuwait 683 copies, and Maskat 709. These sales have been to Arabs from every

province in Arabia. They represent the results of tours into new territory where the sound of the Gospel has never before penetrated. The Bible has been put into the huts of the down-trodden Arabs who care for the date gardens of the Busrah River. It has been purchased by roving Bedouins from the sandy plains of Central Arabia. It has entered the houses of the rich, and the palaces of the ruling Sheikhs. In Kuwait, Mr. Calverley writes that "the officials of the local Moslem Benevolent Society asked for a Bible and a Bible Dictionary to be placed in their Mejlis. The request was of course granted, and now it will be possible to induce others to read, because if their religious leaders can ask for the Book, it is not wrong for them to have it. There has been a beginning of village work in the Bahrein Islands, a tent was secured from India, and was pitched in different localities for a whole week at a time, where the workers lived to come in contact with the people of the locality, and read to them and talk with them about spiritual things.

The sale of six thousand copies of the Word of God may seem like a small matter, but to one who knows of the difficulties under which it has been accomplished, and realizes something of the intense darkness into which this light has been brought, it will be reckoned the principal achievement of the year. The foundations of the Church of Christ in Arabia are being slowly laid, and the reason why the slowness of our present progress does not discourage us, is that we know the Church is being reared on foundations, that shall still be new and strong, after the sun and moon shall cease to exist.

The past twenty-five years have seen great things accomplished in Arabia, and perhaps none of them greater than the increased understanding, the new vision of what God wants us to do in this part of His great field. There may be no harder one. We are sure there is none more glorious. The Mission passed the following minute at its annual meeting just held in Maskat. It is a feeble effort to tell the Church something of what we feel God has done, is doing, and is anxious to do, through us, in Arabia.

*Minute Passed by the Arabian Mission at its Annual Meeting
held in Maskat, November, 1914:*

The Arabian Mission in celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary returns grateful thanks to God, our Heavenly Father, for his loving care and many blessings during these years. The quarter century has seen the growth of a Mission consisting of 2 young men to a force of 30 men and women who continue consecrated to the original purpose of occupying Arabia for Christ.

The people reached, the medical and educational service rendered, the Scriptures distributed, the preaching performed have all steadily increased during this time.

The Mission, while it has not outgrown its pioneer character, as it hopes it never will, until every Arab tribe has received its message, has shown its intention of permanently occupying every position gained, by gradually placing Christian homes and institutions in every center of population it has been possible to enter.

There have been marvelous changes, not only in the attitude of the people reached, but also in their political circumstances—changes which were never thought possible in the early days.

The Mission has experienced and indeed helped to bring about no less remarkable changes in the whole Moslem problem both as met with in the world of Islam and as received by the Christian Church.

For these and many other evidences of God's guidance and providence and His clear purpose of using the Arabian Mission in increasing measure for His glory and the salvation of the Arabs, we present our fervent thanks to God and pray that for our enlarging responsibilities we may be endued with greater faith and faithfulness.

On this occasion also, we the other members of the Mission, extend our congratulations to Dr. Cantine upon the completion of his first quarter century of service, thanking him for the inspiration of his example and precept, not only in dealing with the ultra Islam for which we work, but also in solving the problems of Mission policy and management. We pray with him that he may be given many more years of service and that he may see the full fruition of his hopes for the evangelization

of Arabia in this generation. We also extend these congratulations to Dr. Zwemer, another of the founders of the Mission, who is now occupied in work that affects all the rest of the Moslem world as well as Arabia, and thank him for the special share he has had in the promotion of the Mission.

We remember also the names and labors of those who have loved Arabia to the end, counting not their lives too dear a price for the winning of the Moslem, and we pray that we who enter into their labors may have no less a love for them, "That they may turn from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive remission of sins and an inheritance among them that are sanctified by faith in Christ."

Our Board of Trustees, especially those who have been with us from the beginning, share our thanks, and join in our thanksgiving, for the progress and success to which this anniversary draws attention. Without their direction of our work here and their leadership of our friends and supporters at home, the Mission could not have prospered.

We now as a Mission most earnestly plead that our Board mark this occasion by granting in full our request for six new missionaries, making a special appeal to the churches and friends of the Mission that the present debt be wiped out, and increased funds provided, that the reinforcements may come to us to take up the new positions that God is now opening for us, and to share in the harvesting for which the Church and we have been patiently working these twenty-five years and which we now believe to be imminent.

There be it resolved: That a copy of this minute be sent to the Board of Trustees, and to Dr. Zwemer,

That Dr. Cantine be requested to address the meeting,

That the Literature Committee be directed to give the widest possible publicity to this minute, and that in adopting this minute the Mission rise while prayer is offered.

A NATIVE CHURCH.

According to our Church standards or as ordinarily understood in mission statistics we have no native church. But in four of the stations congregations are regularly served by mis-

sionaries, the Word is regularly preached, the sacraments administered and discipline enforced. An average of 125 attend these services and of these an average of 20 are Moslems. A few of the stations report inquirers under instruction but are not able to give an estimate.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE ARABIAN MISSION.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 31, 1914.

Presented in the form suggested by the Continuation Committee.

<p>A. FOREIGN FORCE.</p> <p>1. Ordained men 8</p> <p>2. Unordained men 4</p> <p>3. Men. Total..... 12</p> <p>4. Single women 4</p> <p>5. Married women 9</p> <p>6. Women. Total 13</p> <p>7. Total foreign force..... 25</p> <p>8. Special workers 1</p> <p>9. Mission stations 5</p> <p>10. Out-stations 3</p> <p>B. NATIVE FORCE.</p> <p>2. Other Christian workers.... 33</p> <p>3. Other Christian workers, women 11</p> <p>4. Total native workers..... 44</p> <p>C. THE NATIVE CHURCH.</p> <p>7. Sunday Schools 6</p> <p>8. Number enrolled 98</p> <p>9. Other religious organizations 1</p> <p>10. Native contributions....Rs., 680</p>	<p>D. EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS</p> <p>1. Teachers, men, foreign..... 2</p> <p>2. Teachers, women, foreign... 2</p> <p>3. Teachers, men, native..... 7</p> <p>4. Teachers, women, native.... 3</p> <p>8. Elementary schools 4</p> <p>9. Pupils 72</p> <p>10. Middle schools 3</p> <p>11. Pupils, male 94</p> <p>12. Pupils, female 27</p> <p>13. Pupils, total 193</p> <p>24. Boarders in foregoing..... 12</p> <p>35. Under Christian instruction.193</p> <p>36. Native contributions for educational workRs., 2,649</p> <p>E. MEDICAL WORK</p> <p>1. Physicians, men, foreign.... 4</p> <p>2. Physicians, women, foreign.. 4</p> <p>3. Nurses, foreign 2</p> <p>5. Native medical assistants.... 11</p> <p>6. Native nurses in service.... 6</p> <p>7. Hospitals 5</p> <p>8. Number of beds..... 90</p> <p>9. In-patients for year.....1059</p> <p>10. Major operations527</p> <p>11. Dispensaries 7</p> <p>12. Individuals treated23,709</p>
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LITERATURE STATISTICS.

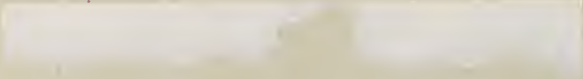
Bibles distributed.....	98
Testaments distributed.....	142
Scripture portions.....	5,783
Total Scriptures.....	6,023
Languages and Dialects.—Arabic, Persian, Hebrew, Turkish, Armenian, Syriac, Urdu, Pashtu, Hindi, Marathi, English, French, Portuguese.	

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